

' Hee hath such a mind to France, that it would incline one to think, hee tooke England onely in his way,' noted Halifax.¹ This plan was frustrated by the landing of James in Ireland. ' This business of Ireland is a violent misfortune for us/ William wrote to Waldeck on March 29. ' There is a kingdom to conquer which will give me no small difficulty, and be a terrible misfortune for the Allies/ he said in a second letter.² It forced him to send to Ireland the regiments he had raised in England or hired from Denmark to make a descent upon the French coast, according to the plan of campaign he had discussed with Schomberg.³ William struggled hard against this necessity. More than once he said to Halifax that to effect a landing in France would be the best way to save Ireland. More than once he said that the war must be carried into France, till Halifax told him ^e it must not bee talked of before hand/⁴ For a time William hoped that Schomberg in one pitched battle would rout James, and recover Ireland before 1689 was over. ' The King said, if the war was dispatch'd this year in Ireland as he hop'd it would be this winter, there was nothing to be [done] but making a descent in France to give a diversion or else the Confederates would make peace, even Holland itself/ William owned that he wished to conduct the expedition in person. No doubt he meant to leave Mary,

assisted by a council, to govern England in his
absence, as
she did in 1690 when he was in Ireland. On
June 24, 1689,
Halifax notes : ' The King said, if hee left us,
the Queen
would governe us better. I told him, hee could
not do that,
now that hee was King, Hee said, yes : that
would not

¹ Halifax, ii. 210, 212, 218, 219, 220.

² Muller, ii. 152, 157.

³ Ibid. pp. 149, 158 ; Klopp, iv. 345, 400, 465,
524.

⁴ Halifax, ii. 218, 220, 235.